



Department of Energy
Office of Science
Washington, DC 20585

Office of the Director

March 15, 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL OFFICE OF SCIENCE STAFF

FROM:

RAYMOND E. ORBACH
DIRECTOR

SUBJECT:

Delegations of Authority

On January 5, 2004, the Secretary approved the OneSC realignment of the Office of Science. The new organizational structure and the alignment of responsibilities and authorities are consistent with the Secretary's previous instructions on ensuring line management responsibility and accountability. The alignment of responsibilities and authorities is key to successful implementation of OneSC and fulfillment of the President's Management Agenda. However, it must be accomplished with due consideration of the statutorily defined responsibilities and authorities of key Departmental Officials, including the Chief Financial Officer, the Senior Procurement Executive, the Chief Information Officer, the Chief Human Capital Officer, and the General Counsel as well as the responsibilities of DOE organizations such as the Office of Independent Oversight and Performance Assurance. In approving the OneSC restructuring, the Secretary was advised that most issues with these organizations had been worked out to mutual satisfaction or were on track to that end except in one area. SC intends to make the Chicago Office the servicing personnel office for SC-HQ employees but an agreement on this matter has not yet been reached with the Chief Human Capital Officer. No changes will occur in this area until such an agreement is reached.

The realignment of authorities is primarily driven by a change in responsibility for management of the SC laboratory contracts. Previously, the responsibilities and authorities associated with managing a laboratory contract and being the accountable federal official for that laboratory were directly assigned to Operations Office Managers. For the ten SC laboratories, this involved the Chicago, Oak Ridge, Oakland, and Richland Operations Offices with Chicago and Oak Ridge reporting directly to SC. Under OneSC, the Chicago Office (CH) and Oak Ridge Office (OR) remain direct reports to SC-HQ, but nine of ten laboratory Site Offices also become direct reports. The Site Office for the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) remains a responsibility of the OR Manager. Under OneSC, the Site Office Managers have federal responsibility for the laboratory contracts and are the accountable federal presence at the laboratory site. The OR Manager has this designation for ORNL.



This shift in responsibilities and accountabilities requires a concomitant assignment of authorities. As indicated in Attachment 1, some Departmental authorities are delegated by formal DOE Delegation Orders, Redelegations, and Regulations, but Attachment 2 identifies many more that are reflected in DOE Orders and other directives. The Department will need to conform these delegations and other authorities, as well as the Department's directive system, to reflect several recent program reorganizations including SC. In the approval memorandum to the Secretary, for OneSC, I indicated that SC was prepared to work with the Office of Management Budget and Evaluation and other Program and Staff Offices to accomplish this.

In the interim, all SC field personnel will execute their assigned responsibilities under the R2A2 Tables (contained in the "To Be" Condition Reports) consistent with the existing set of authorities, except as modified by the interpretive guidance in Attachment 3. This direction and guidance will be in effect until the necessary delegations/regulations are developed, reissued or modified, and/or appropriate directives modifications effected. You will notice that Attachment 3 indicates that Heads of SC Site Offices and the Heads of CH and OR, will be considered Heads of Field Organizations and exercise the responsibilities enumerated, so long as they meet two prerequisites: (1) they have been assigned those responsibilities in the applicable R2A2 Table, and (2) they possess the authority to execute the assigned responsibility.

If you have any questions regarding the contents of this memo or its attachments, contact Mr. Ed Cumesty, Acting Deputy Chief Operating Officer, at 202-586-4926 or Dr. Milton Johnson, Chief Operating Officer, at 202-586-5440.

Attachments

cc: PSOs and HQ Staff Offices